

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

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SUBJECT Information on the Military VTU
Pilot Plant in Bodenbach

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NO. OF ENCLS. 2 Annexes
(LISTED BELOW)

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DATE OF
INFO. [REDACTED]

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

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1. The military-technical VTU Pilot Plant in Bodenbach (N 51/F 56) was engaged in testing and improving former German weapons such as bazookas, rockets, booster rockets, and jet engines. The plant was housed in the former Schmidding Boiler Plant. (1)
2. Chief of the installation was Colonel Josef Motycka. He received his orders from the VTU at 4 ul. Tatraskiho pluku in Prague. His deputy was Major Pernicka, (fnu); chief of the personnel section was Major Kramar, (fnu). his deputy was paymaster (Captain) Otcenasek, (fnu). [REDACTED] 25X1X
engineer Budik, (fnu), was chief of the VTU in Prague. Chief of the Designs Bureau was Major Oldrich Liska; his deputies were Dr. Otto Grossmann, and Captain Alois Prokop. Major Liska worked mainly on jet engines and booster rockets, Dr. Grossmann on V-2 missiles and rockets. Captain Prokop was in charge of booster rockets and rocket weapons.
3. All the experiments were made with former German Army weapons. New developments included a rocket weapon of about 90 mm diameter, similar to the US bazookas, and a rocket of about 120 mm diameter that was launched from a rail by means of electric ignition.
4. From captured German equipment a total of 60 jet engines were built under the supervision of Engineer Tornov, (fnu), who later fled to West Germany. (2) Velocities of projectiles were measured under the supervision of Engineer Prokop.
5. From 1945 to mid-1947 there was a branch installation of the Prague VTU in Bodenbach (Podmokly). In mid-1947 the personnel and equipment of this branch installation were transferred to Nevoschitze (sic) near Prague. (3)
6. The institute in Bodenbach was engaged in the repair and improvement of captured German equipment. Available for these purposes were the indicator of a Kulmbach-type set whose transmitter and receiver were missing and a Berlin-type radar set, which was put in operation in Bodenbach. Source

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did not know whether the set worked satisfactorily. A group of engineers worked on the development of an oscillograph. Young Czech engineers were being trained at the branch institute. German transmitters and receivers operating on wave lengths of from 5 to 7 meters were being repaired at the Elphys firm at 25 Delnicke, Bodenbach.

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7. In 1946/1947 Dr. Ing. Huebsch, (fnu), was ordered to copy a US proximity fuze. [REDACTED] a specimen of a US-type miniature tube used for such fuzes was given to Dr. Ing. Huebsch. However, the order was withdrawn before the preparations for the manufacture of the fuze were completed. (h)
8. In 1945, about 50 persons including 14 Germans were employed at the Bodenbach branch plant of the VTU. Of these, Chief Engineer Loos, (fnu), who formerly had worked in the fields of high and low frequency techniques at the AEG in Berlin, was forced to go to Nevoschitz. Dr. Ing. Huebsch, formerly owner of the Elphys firm became a Czech citizen and was made chief of the development department at his former plant. Engineer Karl Weber, who was formerly employed at the teletype apparatus section of the Lorenz firm went to Prague in 1950. The other Germans were assigned to other enterprises in Bodenbach.

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Comments.

- (1) See Annex 1 and 2 furnished by first source. In 1947 only the development laboratories of the German radio firms, which were evacuated to the AEG Plant in Bodenbach during the war, were transferred to Prague. See [REDACTED]. 25X1A
- (2) The figure of 60 jet engines, both JUMO-004 B engines and to a lesser extent also BMW-003 engines, assembled from equipment left behind by the Germans agrees with previous information.
- (3) This statement refers to the confirmed transfer of the radio-technical section of the VTU from the premises of the AEG in Bodenbach. The section of the pilot plant engaged in the development of weapons remained on the premises of the Schmidding Plant.
- (4) This statement throws some light on the previously reported development of US-type miniature tubes used for proximity fuzes. It appears that the Czechs did not succeed in manufacturing such proximity fuzes. However, the order may also have been transferred to some other installation. During the war, fuzes for antiaircraft shells were manufactured at the Elphys Plant. However, this plant was not equipped for the manufacture of transmitting triodes and thyatron.

Attachment: I Location of the VTU Plant in Bodenbach
 II Sketch of the VTU in Bodenbach

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